



French Language Student Exchanges 101

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Rennes-Rochester Sister Cities Committee



I'm concerned about...

- Cost
- School Support
- Finding Host Families
- Too busy to plan!



Benefits of Experience Abroad

- Exposure to language and culture
- Relevance to other academic areas
- Personal growth and career inspiration
- Lifelong friendships



“Our daughter especially was influenced by the exchange as she chose a career in **International Studies** and has continued to see her pen pal several times since they first met.”

Jeff and Elin Orman
Parents, Honeoye Central Schools



“Ce voyage m'a appris à **dépassé les clichés**. Nous sommes différents en en même temps tellement semblables.”

"Depuis le voyage aux États Unis, j'ai gagné en **confiance**."

Students from Lycée Bréquigny



Managing Costs

- Exchanges intended to be self-funding, but district may take on some costs
- One half of the exchange pays for the other

i.e. American student pays ~\$2000 for airfare and time in Rennes; a portion of that covers the costs of having the French students visit



Rochester Museum & Science Center
\$7 per student



Rochester City Hall
Free



School Support

“As far as the administration goes, I merely needed to present the idea to the Board, and they were ‘on board’ with it, once they realized the educational value!”

Jen Rybak

Teacher, Aquinas Institute of Rochester



Finding Host Families

“ It has been a **wonderful experience** and we still keep in touch with a couple of our French students that visited our house.”

-Cathy and Scott Pestle

“Hosting students and staff from France has been **life-changing** for us! We encourage families to host a student from France as the experience is **unforgettable** and **worthwhile** for the whole family.”

-Jeff and Elin Orman



Finding Host Families

“Once you get [the French students’] sheets with their personal information students become very interested.”

-Penny Hensler

“ I always tell them, ‘it is a WEEK out of your life, and they just want to live the American way, so just be yourselves and do whatever it is you usually do on a daily basis!’”

-Jen Rybak



Too Busy to Plan?

Use the information in this presentation and uploaded to the NYSAFLT conference page to make the process simpler and easier

Online you will find:

- Model itineraries for the French and American side of the exchange
- Info on high school life in Rennes
- Extra copies of conference handouts



Let's get started!

1. Tell us you're interested
2. Talk to your school administrators
3. Let us get you in touch with a French high school for a Skype conversation



Stay in Touch

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